

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IT 03/00492

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G01H1/00 G01V1/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G01H G01V G08B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	US 4 956 999 A (BOHANNAN WILLIAM L ET AL) 18 September 1990 (1990-09-18) column 5, line 37 - line 67 column 6, line 23 - line 39 column 7, line 53 - line 63 column 10, line 62 -column 11, line 19 column 14, line 42 - line 51 column 17, line 51 -column 18, line 58 figures 8,9 ----- A	1-4,7,9, 10 5,6,8,11 1,7,9
A	US 5 101 195 A (CAILLAT KENNETH D ET AL) 31 March 1992 (1992-03-31) the whole document -----	



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the International search report
28 January 2004	04/02/2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer De la Cruz Valera, D

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Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4956999	A 18-09-1990	US CA EP JP	4901575 A 2001926 A1 0371631 A2 2212734 A	20-02-1990 31-05-1990 06-06-1990 23-08-1990
US 5101195	A 31-03-1992	US	5001466 A	19-03-1991